



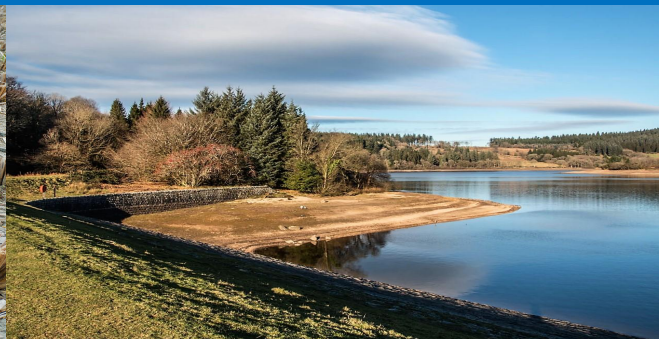
Drought Information Statement for West Central & Southwest Florida

Valid September 9, 2023

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

Contact Information: sr-tbw.webmaster@noaa.gov

- This product will be updated by Sep 16, 2023 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/tbw/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Florida

- Slight improvement over the interior thanks to rainfall from Idalia.
- Drought intensity and Extent
 - D3 (Extreme Drought): along the coast of Manatee county south to central Sarasota county.
 - D2 (Severe Drought): bounded the D3 area across the southern half of Pinellas, southwestern Hillsborough, inland portions of Manatee and Sarasota counties
 - D1 (Moderate Drought): extends from southwest Pasco county to interior Manatee and Sarasota counties, south near the coast of Charlotte and Lee counties
 - D0: (Abnormally Dry): bounded the D1 area and extended into much of Hardee and Desoto counties, and across most of Charlotte and Lee counties.

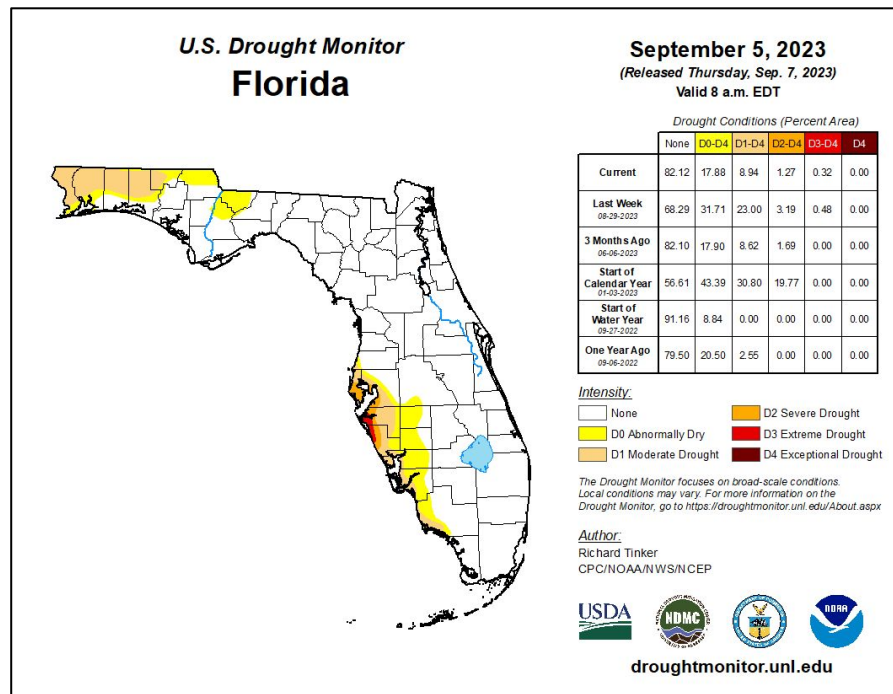


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid 8am EDT September 5th.



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Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Florida

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - There has been some improvement in the drought conditions thanks to the rainfall from Idalia, but areas near the coast of Manatee and Sarasota county are continuing to see their driest start to any year since records began.

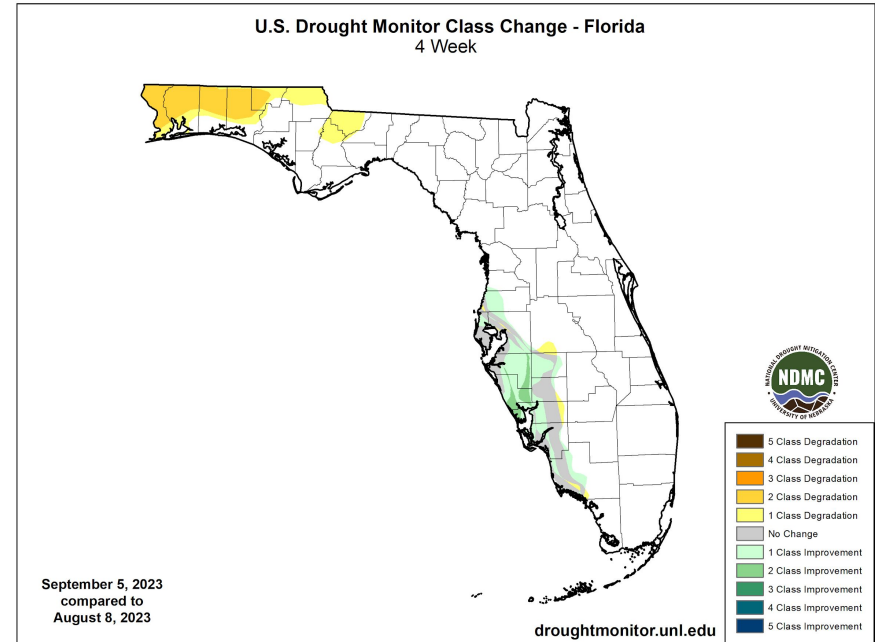


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid 8am EDT September 5th.



Precipitation

Table of Accumulated Rainfall (inches) for Select Locations - January 1 to September 7, 2023

The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to September 7, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	24.36	38.81	-14.45	63%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	*23.22	41.99	-18.77	55%
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	24.33	35.92	-11.59	68%
NWS Ruskin	TBW:	20.79	40.34	-19.55	52%
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	35.30	36.00	-0.70	98%
Sarasota-Bradenton Area	SRQ:	20.26	37.92	-17.66	53%
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	*33.03	44.12	-11.09	75%
Fort Myers/SW Intl Apt	RSW:	28.72	40.56	-11.84	71%
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	40.29	44.17	-3.88	91%
Plant City	PLCF1:	43.33	44.04	-0.71	98%
Lakeland	LLDF1:	40.75	43.62	-2.87	93%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	34.23	43.83	-9.60	78%
Venice	VNCF1:	20.77	38.87	-18.10	53%
Archbold Bio Stn	ACHF1:	45.25	41.75	+3.50	108%

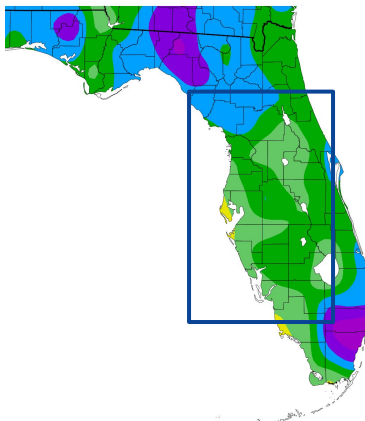
*Rainfall missing on August 20, 2023. Radar estimate of 0.50 inches included in this total

**Rainfall missing on June 2, 2023. Radar estimate of 1.90 inches included in this total

The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
St Leo	STLF1:	34.69	39.38	-4.69	88%
Bartow	BARF1:	36.04	38.57	-2.53	93%
Desoto City 8 SW	DSOF1:	40.15	37.87	+2.28	106%

Precipitation (in)
1/1/2023 - 9/7/2023



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
1/1/2023 - 9/7/2023

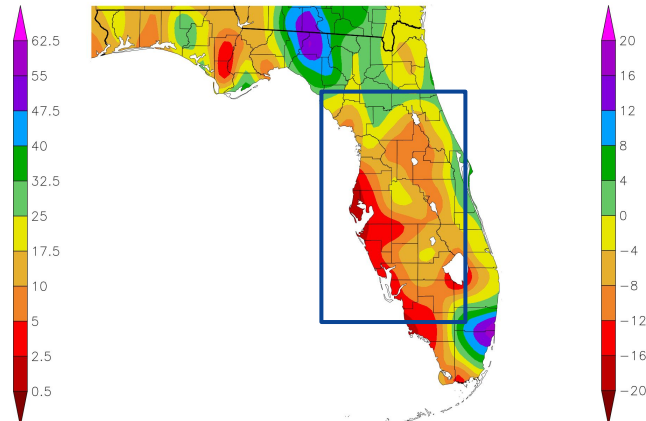


Image Captions:

Left - Precipitation Amount for Florida

Right - Departure from Normal Precipitation for Florida

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.

Data for 2023 ending September 7, 2023



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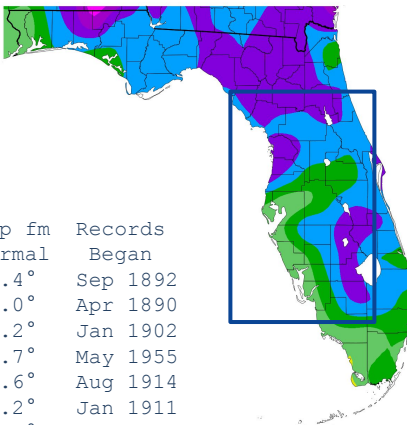
Temperature

Temperatures have average about 1° to 3° above normal this summer (June/July/August) setting new records for the Warmest Summer in some locations.

SUMMER TEMPERATURE RANKINGS (°F) :

Location	Summer 2023		Normal Temp	Dep fm Normal	Records Began
	Ranking	Avg Temp			
Plant City	1st Warmest	86.6°	83.2°	+3.4°	Sep 1892
Tampa Area	2nd Warmest	85.6°	83.6°	+2.0°	Apr 1890
Fort Myers Area	2nd Warmest	85.2°	83.0°	+2.2°	Jan 1902
Venice	2nd Warmest	85.2°	82.5°	+2.7°	May 1955
St Petersburg Area	3rd Warmest	85.1°	83.5°	+1.6°	Aug 1914
Sarasota-Bradenton Area	1st Warmest	85.0°	82.8°	+2.2°	Jan 1911
Punta Gorda Area	1st Warmest	84.7°	82.8°	+1.9°	May 1914
Lakeland Area	1st Warmest (tie)	84.6°	82.8°	+1.8°	Jan 1915
Winter Haven Area	8th Warmest	84.0°	83.8°	+0.2°	Mar 1941
Bartow	6th Warmest	83.5°	81.9°	+1.6°	Jun 1892
Brooksville Area	2nd Warmest	83.0°	80.9°	+2.1°	Jan 1892
St. Leo	8th Warmest (tie)	82.8°	81.0°	+1.8°	Apr 1895
Archbold Bio Stn	3rd Warmest	82.6°	81.4°	+1.2°	Jan 1969

Temperature (F)
6/10/2023 – 9/7/2023



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
6/10/2023 – 9/7/2023

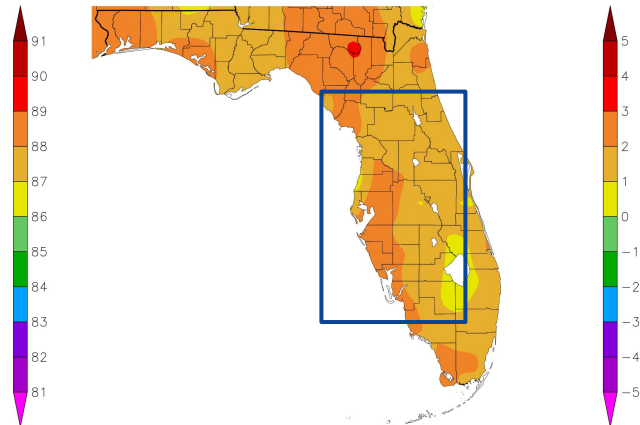


Image Captions:

Left - Average Temperature

Right - Departure from Normal Temperature

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.

Data over the past 90 days ending September 7, 2023



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Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- Rainfall from Idalia has allowed main stem rivers to recover across west central and southwest Florida with all but the Withlacoochee river running near to above climatic normals. Expected generally dry conditions next week which should cause rivers to continue to recede rather quickly.

Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

Mitigation Actions

- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place





Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Due to heavy rainfall associated with Hurricane Idalia, most main-stem rivers and streams are running near to above normal (however, not as high as you would typically expect for early September). Still a concern is the lower portion of the Withlacoochee River which is running in the lowest 20th percentile. Also, the recovery may be temporary as rather dry conditions post Idalia combined with antecedent conditions will cause rivers to fall faster than normal.

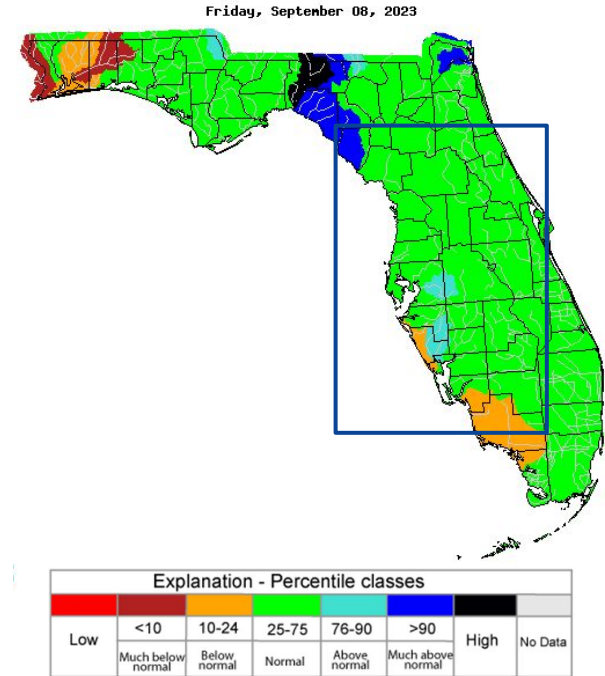


Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid September 8, 2023



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected over the next week with rainfall amounts generally between 0.25 and 0.50 inch, with locally higher amounts possible.

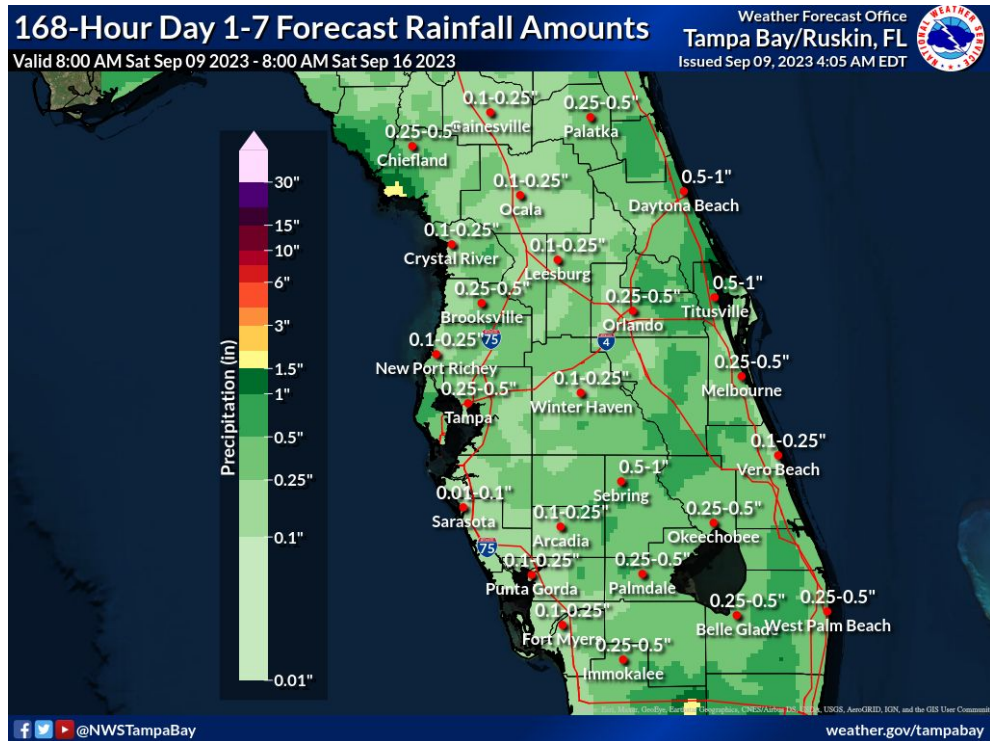


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid 8 AM EDT Saturday September 9 to 8 AM Saturday September 16





Long-Range Monthly Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Warmer than normal temperatures are favored during the month of September, while equal chances of above, below, and near normal precipitation is outlooked for the Florida peninsula.

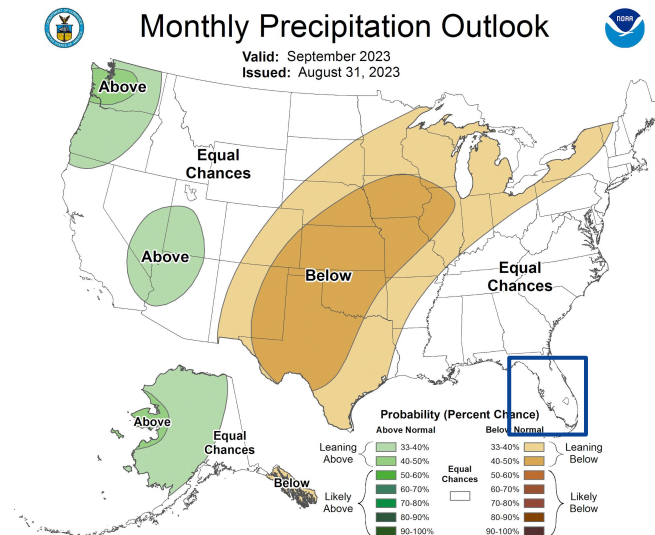
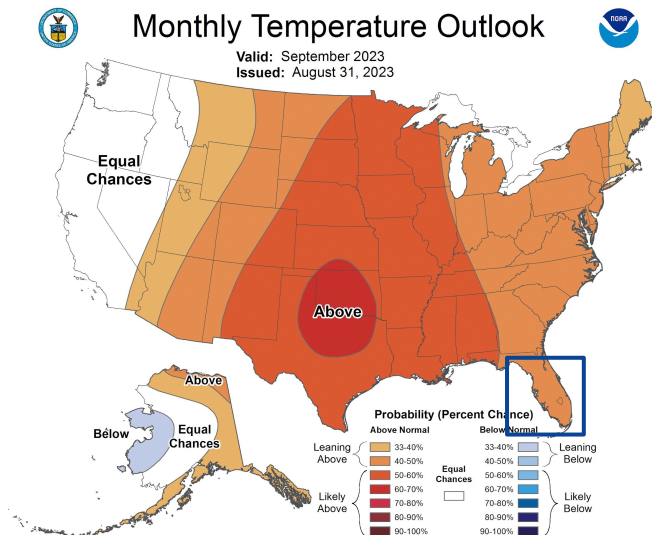


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid September 2023



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Long-Range Seasonal Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Warmer than normal temperatures are favored during the three month period of September through November while precipitation is leaning toward above normal for the Florida peninsula.

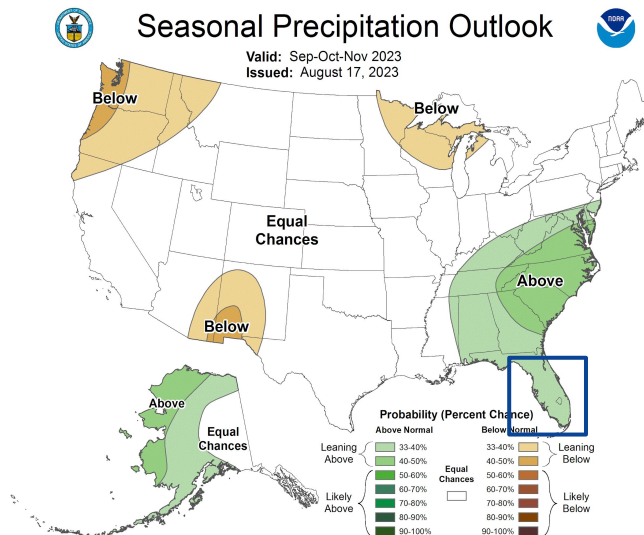
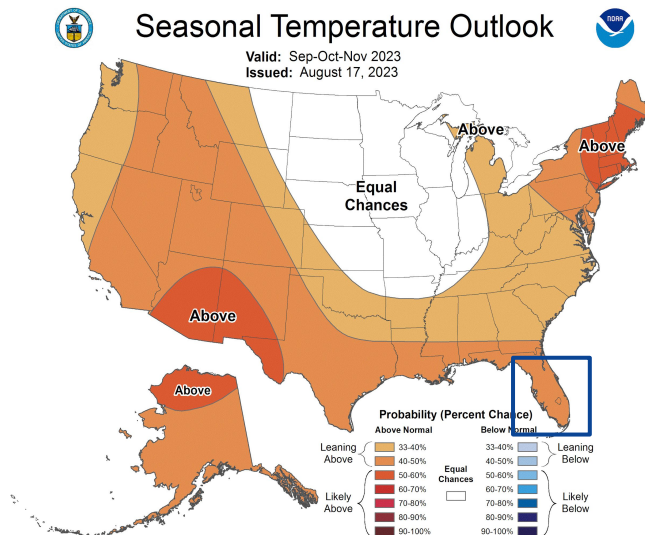


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook.](#)

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook.](#)

Valid September - November 2023



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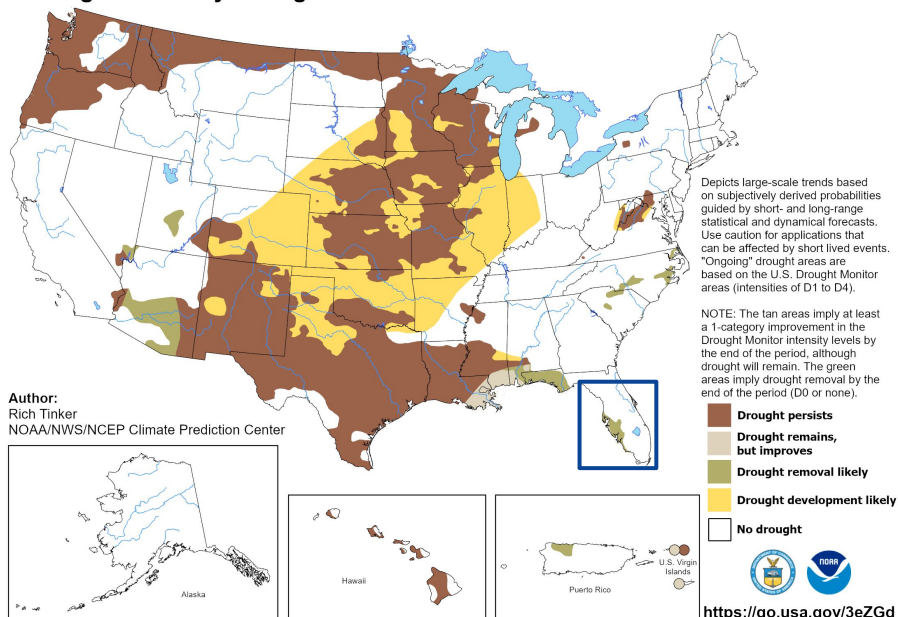
Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Some improvement in the drought conditions is expected as we move through September.

U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for September 2023
Released August 31, 2023



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook
Released August 31, 2023 valid for September 2023



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